

Docket No.: SON-2167/CON  
(80001-2884)

PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Nobuhiro KIHARA et al.

Application No.: (To be determined)

Art Unit: 2872

Filed: November 4, 2003

Examiner: John Juba, Jr.

For: IMAGE-REPRODUCING APPARATUS  
AND IMAGE-REPRODUCING METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to Applicant cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in parent application No. 09/906,672; filed on July 18, 2001 in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. The relevance of these documents are explained in the parent application. As provided in 37 CFR 1.98(d), copies of the document are not provided since they were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in the parent application.

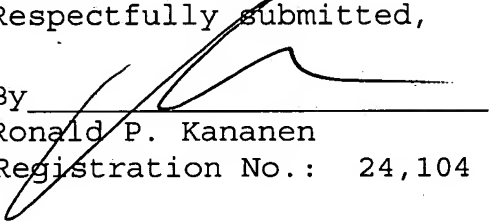
Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b) before an initial action, no fee is required in connection with its filing.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Dated: November 4, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	To Be Determined
				Filing Date	November 4, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Nobuchiro KIHARA et al.
				Art Unit	2872
				Examiner Name	John Juba, Jr.
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SON-2167/CON

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	5,455,693	10/03/1995	Wreede et al.	
	AB	5,504,593	04/02/1996	Hotta et al.	
	AC	5,619,586	04/08/1997	Sibbald	
	AD	5,742,411	04/21/1998	Walters	
	AE	6,018,403	01/25/2000	Shirakura et al.	
	AF	6,118,589	09/2000	Angelo et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	BA	JP 62-250472 A	10/31/1987	Hajime et al.		
	BB	WO 95 04294 A	02/09/1995	Metz et al.		
	BC	EP 0 864 947 A2	09/16/1998	Shirakura et al.		
	BD	JP 2000-162995 A	06/11/2000	Daijiro et al.		
	BE	WO 01 46722 A1	06/28/2001	Putilin		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	CA	European Search Report of September 5, 2003	√
	CB		
	CC		
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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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DC138029